

# THE UNION SEMINARY REVIEW

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## A FOREWORD.

The world will never again be what it was before the war. There have been vast social, political, commercial and geographical changes and the end is not yet. Has the war affected the Church and the progress of Christianity? Will the Church have to change some of her methods of work and some of her forms of organization? Are there any lessons which the Church can learn from the war? These and similar questions are to the fore at present and are insistent. It has therefore seemed wise to the editors to issue a special number of the Union Seminary Review on The Church and the War. In this number we have articles from men who have been thrown into the closest touch with our soldiers and men who are leaders in the Church.

Dr. Edward Mack was for a number of months director of religious work at Marines' Camp, Quantico, Va. Incidentally we may add that Dr. Mack studied at the University of Berlin and is familiar with European history.

Dr. Macfarland traveled all over France and had the most intimate conferences with the political, military and religious leaders of France and Belgium.

\*Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman has preached all around the world and since the war has been thrown into the closest touch with our soldiers. At present he is one of the leading spirits in the New Era Movement of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A.

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\* Since the above was written Dr. Chapman has been called to his reward. There will be many stars in his crown. The Southern Presbyterian Church will miss him greatly.

## WILLIAM MAXWELL.

BY PRESIDENT J. D. EGGLESTON, LL. D.,

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In the sketch of William Maxwell by Rev. W. H. T. Squires, D. D., which appeared in the *Union Seminary Magazine*, October, 1918, is the following statement:

"So completely have book and author been forgotten that neither finds a place in any collection of Virginia or Southern literature. Maxwell deserves better at the hands of posterity than he has received."

In Manly's *Southern Literature*, William Maxwell appears in the list of Southern writers as the editor of the *Virginia Historical Register*, and as the author of a memoir of John Holt Rice.

In Rutherford's "The South in History and Literature," his name appears as editor of the *Virginia Historical Register*.

In Vol. 7 of *The South in the Building of the Nation*, in a sketch of the History of Intellectual Life of the South, there is a chapter entitled "Characteristics of Southern Poetry from the Beginning to 1865." From page 11 I quote as follows: "In the first quarter of the century John Shaw, of Maryland (1810), William Maxwell, of Virginia (1812), Richard Dabney, of the same State (1812), Washington Allston, of South Carolina (1813), and Edward Coate Pinckney, of Maryland (1825), had published thin volumes of verse from which a poem or two found its way into the early selections from American literature, some of them even surviving to the present time. Those that have survived are light lyrics of more or less sentimental character, and only a certain grace of versification and a mild appeal to the persistent sentimentalism in human nature have kept them from going the way of the merely trivial in literature. For example,"—and then a verse from

John Shaw is quoted. I again quote: "Again, a stanza of versified triviality is even yet quoted from William Maxwell:

How many kisses do I ask?  
Now you set me to my task.  
First, Sweet Annie, will you tell me  
How many waves are in the sea?  
How many stars are in the sky?  
How many lovers you make sigh?  
How many sands are on the shore?  
I shall want just one kiss more."

In the monumental Library of Southern Literature, Vol. 15, Biographical Dictionary, is a short sketch of Maxwell in which it is stated that "he published a volume of 'poems' (Philadelphia, 1812), which passed into two editions."

Finally, in Dr. F. V. N. Painter's Poets of Virginia, a volume that is a monument of research and a labor of love, and which should be in the library of every Virginian interested in Virginia literature, is a sympathetic sketch of William Maxwell with several quotations from his poems.